Price Twopence 3s. per annum post free

The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 362. NOVEMBER, 1936.

GOOD. TRUTH. BEAUTY.

"At this Altar, I have eternal refuge"—PRESTON BRADLEY.

CONTENTS:

NOTES AND NEWS ... ... Front Page
MEN'S LEAGUE 124
OBITUARY 125
THE MODERATOR IN ABERDEEN ... 128
THE QUEST OF THE MERCIFUL—An Irish Story —By F. H. Aldhouse 129

NOTES AND NEWS.

Ballyhemlin—The Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday, October 4th, at 3-30 p.m. The church was crowded to overflowing. The Belgravia Male Quartette again gave their services. Preacher was the Rev. John Barron. Collection £11 10s.

Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland
AND
Unitarian and Free Christian Men's League.

UNITED SERVICE

WILL BE HELD ON
SUNDAY, NOV. 22nd, 1936
AT SEVEN O'CLOCK.
IN THE ULSTER HALL, BELFAST,

PREACHER
Rev. H. J. ROSSINGTON, M.A., B.D.,
BIRMINGHAM.
Subject—"RELIGION AND REALITY."

The Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church:
Rev. A. L. AGNEW, B.A., B.D.,
WILL PRESIDE.

ORGAN RECITAL from 6-40 by
Mr. ALBERT TAYLOR L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.
Doors open at 6-30 p.m.

A HEARTY INVITATION TO ALL

N.B.—A Lantern Lecture, subject: "HOLLAND AND GERMANY IN 1936," will be given by the Rev. H. J. ROSSINGTON, M.A., B.D., in the CENTRAL HALL, on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd, at 8 p.m. Tickets of Admission: One Shilling Each.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BELFAST.

SALE OF WORK

IN
CENTRAL HALL
ROSEMARY STREET
On TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17th
At 3 p.m
(for Debt incurred on Central Hall Buildings, etc.)

OPENER:
MISS DUFFIN OF ARDNAVALLY.
CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM ANDREWS, ESQ., COMBER.

THERE WILL BE VARIOUS STALLS
WITH
Needlework, Grocery, Fruit, "White Elephants", &c.
AT VERY LOW PRICES.
TEAS, 1/- HIGH TEAS, 1/6.

A Cordial Invitation is given to all friends.

SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to the Manager, Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

* * *

Ballee—Very successful Harvest Thanksgiving Services on the Sunday, October 18th, and on the Monday evening. Meeting House lit with electric light for the first time. Collections totalled over £30. Preacher on Sunday, Rev. C. Simpson, and on Monday evening, Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A.

Glenarm—The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on September 27th and 28th. The Church was very tastefully decorated and Miss Galbraith and her fellow workers are to be congratulated on the charming result of their labours. The augmented choir sang with spirit the anthem "O Lord how manifold" (Barnby) Miss Lily Robinson the organist is to be congratulated on the results she obtained. The hymn singing was most inspiring. The minister was the preacher on the Sunday, and the Rev. F. Munn of Cairncastle on the Monday. There were large and appreciative congregations on both occasions.

* * *

Dromore—Great crowds attended the three Harvest Thanksgiving Services on Sunday and Monday, October 4th and 5th. The Meeting House with its gallery is able to accommodate a very large congregation, and the numbers totalled at the three services amount to a considerable sum; and this is all the more creditable as it was observed there were none present from other congregations of our body. The Harvest Collections amounted to £30.

* * *

Killinchy—Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held here on Sunday, October 4th, 1936, and also on Monday evening, October 5th, at 7-30. The Church was decorated by the ladies, including the young people of both sexes. Corn, flowers of many hues, fruit and vegetables predominated, all of which being lavishly displayed. On Sunday morning the local minister preached to a fuller congregation than we have ever noticed at Harvest Services. On Sunday evening we had the advantage of listening to the Rev. James Shaw Brown of Clough and also on Monday evening. We were particularly pleased with Mr. Shaw Brown's address on Sunday evening, who depicted a picture of a Harvest Scene by Millet, a French Artist. The whole discourse was very much admired. On Sunday evening the Church was practically filled to overflowing in the body of the Church and the gallaries. He also preached on Monday evening, and his services were again greatly admired. Harvest Hymns were sung throughout by an augmented choir, and an anthem, "Praise the God of Harvest" was rendered morning and evening. Our organist, Miss J. Russell, presided at the organ. Collection £13.

* * *

Cairncastle—The celebration of the Harvest Festival was held in the Old Meeting House, Cairncastle, on Sunday and Monday. The church was tastefully decorated by the ladies of the congregation, and the harvest anthems and hymns rendered by a well-balanced choir were a joy and an inspiration to the large congregation present on both days, helping to create a real spirit of thanksgiving. The Rev. J. McCleery, B.A., S.T.M., of Newry, was the special preacher at the services, and his thoughtful, yet practical, discourses, brought home the lesson to every heart of God's care and man's responsibility in the harvest field of life. The minister and congregation are deeply indebted to Sir Thomas Dixon, Bart., Mr. William Chaine, D.L., for gifts of fruit and flowers; and to Mr. Law, of Larne, for temporary installation of electric light. Miss N. H. Crawford had charge of the music and presided at the organ.

* * *

Downpatrick Meeting House—The Harvest Thanksgiving, was adorned on Sunday, October 4th, with a profusion of floral bloom and garden produce, in accordance with the 45 years' custom inaugurated by Rev. M. S. Dunbar, of hallowed memory. There was a good attendance, notwithstanding that there were three other services in the neighbourhood. The praise was led by an augmented choir, trained by and under the capable leadership of Miss Marie Henry, organist. In addition to the introit and hymns, there was sung the anthem, "O taste and see that the Lord is good." Miss Gertrude McMurray taking the solo part very effectively. Rev. Nicol Cross, of Rosemary Street, Belfast, delivered two eloquent discourses. In the morning, his text being, "In due season we shall reap if we faint not," Gal vi., 9, he dealt with the order of nature, and said that we required to have faith in the moral order; if we went on faithfully in spite of disappointments the ideal would ultimately be fulfilled. The evening subject was "If the seed had no root it withered away," Mark iv., 6. Collection almost £9. Grapes sent to the sick members of Congregation.

* * *

York Street—There has been nothing unusual to report during the past few months. The Anniversary Service was held in the Ulster Hall as it has been during the past ten years, and once more hundreds of people had to be turned away. Every seat was taken half-an-hour before the Service was due to commence. No special collectors had been invited in accordance with the present plan to make the Church entirely self supporting without any money raising efforts whatever

and it is satisfactory to be able to report that all expenses were met. Once more the largest country contingents came from the most distant places, the largest being from Newry, while Cairncastle showed their friendliness in spite of the fact that is was their own harvest. About five hundred people were entertained to tea in York Street during the day.

All our activities are again in full swing, the Hall being in use every night in the week. Dr. Agnew gave his lecture on "4000 miles through Soviet Russia" on 23rd and 24th September, with Alderman Midgley, M.P., and Professor Henry in the chair. He prefaced his remarks by stating that he knew little about the subject, and only proposed to show the pictures he had taken with a word of comment on each. He succeeded in holding the intense interest of a packed audience, representing all shades of opinion, for almost two and half hours in a manner which Professor Henry described as an amazing intellectual and even physical feat. Scores of people had unfortunately to be turned away on both nights. The lecture was repeated a fortnight later with Mr. W. J. McGuffin and Mr. Richard Hayward in the chair, and was again crowded, though it had only been advertised by an announcement at the Ulster Hall. The concluding lecture was responsible for a remarkable attendance from the country, even a few members of our own Denomination being present. The total attendance has been over one thousand, and the lecture is shortly to be repeated in Belfast, while several deputations were present to secure it for different societies notably Young Farmers' Clubs. Again we felt the handicap of our limited space. Not only does it prevent us making the most of functions of this kind, but it imposes a considerable strain on our workers and our Minister to produce the same results that more fortunate congregations can obtain with a single night's work.

Dr. Agnew is preaching in Aberdeen during the month. His frequent absences mean a considerable loss to the congregation, but should his health permit we hope to have him regularly in his own pulpit throughout the winter. This is his fourteenth year with us, and we hope to make it a record one.

Our country friends could do much to help us by making the short journey to Belfast, when they have no services of their own, and showing a friendly interest in one of their own Churches to which so many of other Denominations are glad to come.

We hope to insert very soon a marvellous bit of photography in the Ulster Hall.—J. H.

Ministers' Meeting—302nd was held at the Mountpottinger Manse, Belfast, on Monday, October 5th. There was a very good attendance. The conducting of Harvest Thanksgiving Services, and topics of interest for sermons were discussed. The ministers were entertained to tea by the Rev. and Mrs. F. Munford.

* * *

First Presbyterian Church, Belfast—A very successful Guest Tea and Concert was held in the Central Hall, organised by the Needlework Guild under the presidency of Mrs. Nicol Cross. There was a large number of hostesses and guests, and after substantial refreshments, a high class Concert was provided by Mr. Albert Taylor, the organist of the church. It consisted of songs, monologues, violin and piano solos, which were greatly enjoyed, the thanks of the audience being expressed by the minister, Mr. W. McRobert and Mr. J. Wilkinson. Those contributing to the programme were Mr. and Mrs. Albert Taylor, Miss Alexander, Miss Chancellor, Miss Kirkwood and Mr. McCormick. The tables were beautifully decorated w th flowers and the Hall looked bright with its new colour scheme for the walls. The proceeds were highly satisfactory.

* * *

Banbridge—The Rev. Charles Simpson from Ballee conducted the Harvest Thanksgiving Services on October 4th. The Church as usual was beautifully decorated with fruit, corn, and other produce including flowers, autumnal berries and moss leaves, by loving hands of many helpers. The handsome pulpit was most artistically adorned with fringes of corn, with a platform decked with apples resting on moss, the whole festooned by flaming virginia.

Mrs. Thompson officiated at the organ with her usual ability, and the music portion of the service was well led by an augmented choir. The anthems 'He giveth Food' and 'While the Earth Remaineth' were tunefully rendered, the able solists being Mrs. V. Stevenson (who had rehearsed the choir), and Messrs K. Shooter and H. L. Chambers. Mr. Hugh Chambers also gave a sympathetic rendition of 'Beautiful Isle of Somewhere.'

The Rev. Mr. Simpson's most appropriate discourses at both services were much appreciated for their devotional and practical value. There was a very good collection which was allocated to the funds of the local District Nursing Society. Flowers were later sent to the Local Hospital, and some placed on the

graves of the recently deceased, and fruit to sick friends of our Congregation.

* * *

Ballyhemlin—Francis Millar of Ballyhalbert, Co. Down, who was on the roll of the Orphan Society, has completed his six months' training at the Prince of Wales Hostel for Seamen, and has been placed on board M. V. "Warwick Castle," of the Union Castle Line. Grants from the Orphan Fund and Brown's Trust, Kircubbin, provided his fee and kit.

* * *

Greyabbey—Greyabbey Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church was tastefully arrayed with symbols of the season of harvest for the annual harvest thanksgiving services which were held on Sunday and Monday. There were good congregations at all the services, and on Sunday evening the special preacher was the Rev. J. Dare Davies, Moneyrea. The praise included harvest hymns and anthems and was led by the church choir, assisted by members of the Holywood Church. Mr. W. J. Harvey, Bangor, presided at the organ. The service on Monday evening was conducted by Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A., and the music was led by the choir, with Miss Brown at the organ.

* * *

Clough—The Harvest Thanksgiving services were held here on Sunday, 20th Sept., and Monday 21st—a month earlier than usual owing to local circumstances. The preacher at the services on Sunday was the Rev. Charles Simpson, Ballee, whose services were much appreciated. The musical part of the services was under the direction of Mr. Wm. McClelland, (of Messrs Hart and Churchill, Belfast) who presided with great efficiency at the organ. Mrs. McClelland (contralto), Mr. W. Hodge, baritone (gold medallist) and Master McVey (boy soprano) rendered solos at both services with much acceptance. On Monday evening, 21st September, the Rev. A. L. Agnew, B.A. D.D, conducted the service, and as usual at Clough was listened to with much interest. A young American student from Chicago College, U.S.A., read the lesson and Mrs. Frank Wilson, Dundrine, Castlewellan, was the soloist. The services were well attended, particularly the evening meetings, and altogether the experiment of an earlier harvest thanksgiving was deemed highly satisfactory.

* * *

All Souls,' Belfast—On Sunday, October 4th, the congregation met after the service and signed a call to Mr. W. Howard Payne, late of the Presbyterian College, Carmarthen. This College exists for the purpose of educating young men for the Christian ministry among Protestant Nonconformists, and is open to students of all denominations without any theological test. Mr. W. Howard Payne having accepted the call, was ordained by the Very Rev., the Presbytery of Antrim, on Tuesday, 20th October, at 7-30., after which, there was what the late Rev. Alex. Gordon described as a Te Deum.

At the ordination the usual preliminary of a service with sermon as laid down in the Directory for Public Worship was omitted; this innovation, however, shortened the service. The proceedings were opened by the Right Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew. The Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M. A., gave the address on "Presbyterian Church Government," which will appear in the December number. The ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. A. Bell, B.A., the members of Presbytery laying on their hands on the head of the ordained, and afterwards extending the right hand of fellowship. The address to minister and congregation was delivered by the Rev. John Begg. A fairly good congregation was present.

MEN'S LEAGUE.

The second monthly meeting of the session was held in York Street Lecture Hall on the 15th October. There was a very good attendance. Dr. A. L. Agnew gave a special talk with lantern slides on his recent visit to Russia, bringing out the special features of the places visited and the conditions under which his tour was conducted. After the lecture an excellent tea was provided and all went away pleased with the attention and hospitality of the York Street folk.

After the Ulster Hall Meeting in November, it is proposed to carry on these Meetings monthly during the Winter Session. We would specially ask for the support of ministers and friends in neighbouring congregations, there was a rather poor representation from nearby congregations at our last meeting.

December, 1936, number published on the **Fourth** Saturday of November. Copy should be in before November **21st** at the latest. Editor: Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

OBITUARY.

Mr. James McCormick, Ballydorn, Killinchy.

The Church here has sustained a severe shock by the death of Mr. James McCormick, Ballydorn, Killinchy, on September 23rd, 1936. For a considerable period he had been ailing from a complication of inward disorders. He had been treated by his physician until he was much improved, and then resumed his farming pursuits for a time, but gradually his aspect began to fail, which ultimately came to a crisis with much sickness and an X-ray examination revealed no symptoms of any special disease. He was removed to a Belfast Nursing Home. His fellow members of the Non-Subscribing Church were greatly shocked to realise the passing away of one of their members who died at the age of 63 years. He had been a prominent member as a member of Committee and as an Elder who ever did all he could for the cause to which he was so attached. Mr. McCormick was a member of a large family all of whom are deeply attached to the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church. He has left behind a widow to whom he was deeply attached. Much sympathy has been extended to her. He and his wife reared a family all of whom are sympathetic to the Non-Subscribing Church, comprising of two sons, James McCormick and David McCormick, and six daughters—four of whom are married. A large number of relatives on both sides of the household, and numerous acquaintances and neighbours attended the funeral on Friday, September 25th, 1936, at 3 p.m. The Rev. D. J. Williams officiating in the home and committing at the graveside in the New Meeting Green, Killinchy, and the Rev. J. G. Davies of Comber leading in prayer.

Mrs. James Dickson, Downpatrick.

Surrounded by the loving care of her daughters and friends Mrs. James Dickson passed peacefully away on the 13th ult. Since her marriage she was a faithful and devoted member of First Presbyterian Church, Downpatrick, her children sharing with her in every good work in connection therewith, and where her remains were interred, the Rev. John Begg of Larne taking the services at the home, Church and graveside. Her husband, the late Mr. James Dickson, was a generous supporter of the old Church at Stream St., which he loved. J.N.

Miss Jane Eliza Watson, Ballywalter

A link with the secession of the Remonstrant Synod, from the old General Synod of Ulster, has passed away in Miss Jane Eliza Watson, who died at her residence Ballywalter, Co. Down, on October 7th. Miss Watson had attained the age of 84 years, and could recite a long poem, describing one of the most dramatic incidents of the secession in connection with her grandfather's successful claim to retain his ministry at Greyabbey, which also meant the right of the congregation, as remaining (at that time) under the Remonstrant Synod of Ulster to hold the Church property. A full description of the incident as told by Dr. Montgomery himself, is to be found in the "Life of Dr. Montgomery." Rev. J. Watson, after the secession had taken place, went as usual on the Sunday morning to begin the day's duties, as the lawful minister of the Meeting House, and found soldiers stationed at the door to debar his entrance. Mr. Watson was placed under arrest and hand-cuffed, and led through the street and taken before a magistrate. The Meeting House was leased from Montgomery of Rose-mount, who later on admitted the claim of the congregation connected with the Presbytery of Bangor, as having the right to retain the property. Mr. Montgomery stated that he was not interested in, nor did he profess to understand the controversy; but, so far as he himself was concerned, had he been a Presbyterian, he would have sided with the Remonstrant Synod.

Rev. William Watson, brother to John Watson, had a still more stirring experience at Clough, when the military were called out to intervene.

The Rev. David Watson of Killinchy was an uncle of Miss Watson, and members of the family have been well known in the denomination.

Friends all over the world will learn with sorrow of Miss Watson's decease, and in Ballywalter and neighbourhood, she was held in highest esteem as an old residenter.

Mr. Robert Wisnom, Ballycarry.

The Ballycarry Congregation very sincerely regrets the passing of Mr. Robert Wisnom, youngest son of the late Mr. Samuel Wisnom, Abrahammond, Whitehead—a family widely known and highly respected throughout the district.

Some eight years ago Mr. Wisnom, then a comparitively young man was taken suddenly and painfully ill with a serious heart trouble. He however regained strength and health to

the extent of carrying on of his large farming estate. He was quite a youth when he sought adventure among the gold fields of South Africa. Then came the Boer War and he returned to this country—and his home. However he could not settle easily and not long after he sailed for California, graduating in one of the Colleges there as a Mining Engineer. From thence he went to Mexico practising his profession, and through the mining districts of the country, travelling widely. As a boy, Mr. Wisnom received his education at the Royal Academical Institution, Belfast. But all through his life he was a man who sought knowledge and who followed with zest every question of public interest and concern. His intellectual ability and far sighted vision were easily in evidence among a large circle of friends, and his advice on many matters was much sought after.

But perhaps more than anything else his kindness of heart endeared him to all who knew him.

The enormous concourse of people at the funeral, represented the churches of every denomination Protestant and Catholic—and were evidence of his charity, wide sympathies, kindly ways and good will towards all men of whatever creed or none. So it is that there are many who are truly sorry that he has gone from their midst.

Miss Florence Malcolm, Belfast.

Special reference was made at the First House, Belfast, on Sunday morning, October 18th, to the grievous loss which the Congregation has sustained in the passing away of Miss Florence Malcolm on October 11th, at the age of 77. Along with her elder sister, and her distinguished brother, the late Mr. Bowman Malcolm, she was for a great many years a most regular attender at worship and deeply interested in all that pertained to the Church's welfare, being an original member of the Women's League. She belonged to the old school of Unitarians to whom leisure meant service and talent spelled duty, nor could anything exceed the faithfulness and reliability with which she discharged whatever responsibilities she undertook, qualities of inestimable value to the Church and ministry in these days.

The Belfast Domestic Mission was the particular sphere of her unwearied perseverance and devotion, not only was she an active member of the General Committee and the Ladies Committee, but for over 40 years she was a visitor in the homes of the people and a friend to them, as a Collector for the Provident Fund, a function which she also discharged in connection with the Holiday Fund and the Coal Fund. Her long experience and intimate knowledge of the Mission Work made her a most valuable member of the Committees till impaired health compelled her to resign in 1935, to the genuine regret of her collegues.

For a considerable period she was confined to her home, but she was never idle Her hands always found some useful work to do, and she was able to pursue the favourite recreation of reading up to the last months when an injury caused by falling relegated her to bed, and at last brought a peaceful end to a life of usefulness and of helpfulness to others, especially the poor.

Her father was the Rev. James Malcolm, minister at one time in Boston, Lincolnshire, and later in the old city of Chester, where he died, after which the widow returned with her young family to Northern Ireland, settling first in Carrickfergus, where Bowmans and Davies had been known for generations, and in the old Churchyard of St. Nicholas she was interred on October 14th, the Rev. R. Nicol Cross officiating. She will be gratefully remembered for her sterling character and mental ability by admiring friends at the First Church and in the Mission, and the sympathy of all will go out to Miss Malcolm in the loss of a life-long companionship.

Mr. Stewart Wilson, Banbridge.

This congregation has suffered a very severe loss in the death of Mr. Stewart Wilson. Mr. Wilson was not only a constant worshipper, an Elder, a member of Committee, but took a very keen practical interest in all our activities. He was also a conscientious servant of the Urban Council. A very large following attended the funeral service. It is not simply that we shall miss him from our midst, but find it difficult to estimate the loss our Church and the community has sustained. He left one daughter to whom our tenderest sympathy is extended.

A week later Mrs. John Wilson passed away after a severe nervous breakdown. This is another sad loss to our Church, and our very deep sympathies are with the sorrowing husband and family.

Mr. William John McCann, Whiterock House, Killinchy.

The Killinchy congregation has sustained

a great loss by the death of an old member of our church who died in his 78th year, early on Monday morning, October 12th. Mr. McCann several years ago had been operated on for appendicitis, and recovered for a considerable period, but as time went on, gradually his appetite which was not robust, began to fail, until at last his condition became a matter of serious concern to his family.

Both Mr. and Mrs. McCann before they were married were members of two old families of the Killinchy Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church. For a good many weeks Mr. McCann's health weakened until he died. Much sympathy was extended to Mrs. McCann and the members of their family and to deceased's brother and sister who did all they could to soothe their brother's weakness. The members of the household of Whiterock House consist of two sons and three daughters—one of whom is a nurse in England, who remained at her father's death bed until he died. Mr. McCann was for many years a member of Committee, a generous subscriber and anxious to know details of the affairs of the Church until of late his health had become inpaired. We are pleased to say that the Whiterock family are all faithful supporters of their Church. The funeral took place on Wednesday, October 14th, in Killinchy Churchyard, the Rev. D. J. Williams officiating in the home and at the grave-side, in the presence of relatives, numerous acquaintances and a large number of the general public.

Mr. John Smyth, Ballyministra, Killinchy.

Our members regret to record the fact that they have lost by death an old member who was much attached to his Church. John Smyth died on Thursday, October 15th, 1936. He attended the Services regularly, until the time came when he failed to leave his home. He died at the age of 80 years. He suffered a great deal from bronchial attacks, which left him in a weak condition. He leaves behind him a daughter, Mrs. Maggie Finlay, who is a widow, who had lived with him for a considerable period of time. We sympathise greatly with her in her loneliness, as for many years she was a member of the Choir of the Remonstrant Church, and her mother was an old member of a family attached to our Church. John Smyth's fellow members and the neighbours highly respected him. His minister also thought of him as a friendly one, as one greatly concerned for his Church. A large company of neighbours and friends assembled to pay the last respect to an old friend, whose kindness of heart and geniality were well-known. The funeral took place on Saturday, October 15th, 1936, in the New Meeting House Green, Killinchy, the Rev. D. J. Williams officiating in the home and also at the graveside.

Mr. William Neill.

A Woodgrange farmer, Mr. William Neill, married less than a year, died on Saturday to the deep regret of a wide circle of friends who appreciated his exemplary character and social disposition. Like his uncle before him, secretary for 40 or 50 years, Mr. Neill was a member of Hollymount L.O.L. He was fond of shooting, and often entertained fellow sportsmen at Woodgrange. Several generations of Neills have been associated with Stream Street Church, and a former minister of the congregation, Rev. John Begg, came from Larne to officiate at the funeral on Monday. —"Down Recorder."

Mrs. Mitchell.

The Mountpottinger Congregation has lost one of its older members through the passing of Mrs. Mitchell. A few weeks prior to her death, which took place on October 8th, our friend was laid aside by illness which was not regarded in a serious light, but matters gradually took a turn for the worse, and the end came rather suddenly. For over thirty years Mrs. Mitchell had been a faithful member of the Church, and since its inception a loyal supporter of the Women's League. Her four sons and two daughters all passed through the Sunday School, and one of them—Mr. Ernest Mitchell—has for some years been a member of the Church Committee and also one of the envelope secretaries in connection with the Free Will Offerings. The sudden death of her husband some ten years ago, and the sub-

sequent loss of her elder daughter were severe blows to our friend, from which she never fully recovered. The funeral took place to Dundonald Cemetery on October 10th, when a large attendance testified to the esteem in which the deceased was held. To the surviving members of the family our sincere sympathy is accorded.

E. R. J.

THE MODERATOR IN ABERDEEN.

We are glad to hear that the visit of Dr. Agnew to Aberdeen was a most happy experience, both for him and the congregation there, which seems to be a flourishing one. On Sunday morning he preached to a full Church, including 250 scholars of the Sunday School, with only a few visitors. At night, however, probably due to a good report of the morning, the Church was packed. Following the Service, at his suggestion, the Church Hall was opened. Dr. Agnew spoke of the Social Hour, which is such a feature of York Street, and suggested it to be adopted in Aberdeen. The suggestion, we understand, has now been enthusiastically taken up, and is likely to prove of great benefit to the Church. On Monday the visitor was introduced to many members of the City Council, of which Rev. H. H. Jones is a member. It is interesting to note that he is also a burgess of the City and a magistrate. The same evening our Moderator was the guest of honour and principal speaker at the Church Anniversary, and it is good for us to hear that many distinguished citizens were also amongst the guests. The isolation which exists in many places appears to have been escaped from in Aberdeen completely, and our Church there seems to enjoy the respect of the whole community. On Tuesday morning Dr. Agnew left for Glasgow, having announced, somewhat to the anxiety of his friends, that he would fly to Belfast if possible, in spite of the weather, in order to be present at the ordination at All Souls that evening. We are pleased to know that he arrived safely after a somewhat adventurous journey, and took part in the ordination. Unfortunately at the social afterwards there was not time even for the Moderatorial word on behalf of us all, or we might have heard a little of progress elsewhere, which would have been heartening, not only to the new Minister and his people, but to everyone. We are sorry to hear Dr. Agnew has not been too well of late. It is his opinion that in spite of our lack of numbers we might still have enthusiastic meetings, if only those who could attend would do so, but that unless there is a renewal of interest, even those who now faithfully attend every function will soon cease to trouble. During his term of office he has tried to set an example of attending every possible meeting, even if not required to take part, and the strain of the past few weeks has been considerable. We trust that he will soon feel well again.

FRIGIDAIRE.

Ballycarry.—Harvest Services were held on Sunday, October 18. Rev. John Begg, of Larne, conducted the Services in the morning and preached a very eloquent sermon to a full congregation. In the evening the Rev. P. M. Lee, of Glenarm, preached a remarkably thoughtful and attractive sermon, which was much appreciated, to an overflowing congregation, some of whose numbers had to stand in the porches of the building. The musical arrangement of both Services was in the capable hands of Mr. W. P. Campbell, of Whitehead, whose skill at the organ brought out both the power and beauty of that instrument. Mrs. Willie Steele, of Belfast, sang a solo, "Thanks Be to God," with much feeling. The Choir, which had been under the tuition of Mr. Campbell for some week night practices, sang wholeheartedly the well-known hymns. Mrs. John M'Kee and Mrs. Willie Millar took charge of the decorations of the Church, ably assisted by other members of the "Women's League," while young people of the congregation also readily gave their help. Before the close of the Service the preacher announced that all present who resided at a distance were very welcome to tea and refreshments in the League Room.

THE QUEST FOR THE MERCIFUL.

AN IRISH STORY

By Rev. F. H. Aldhouse, M.A.

UNFINISHED QUEST.

The world of men lay behind me, a grey-yellow smear of fog through which a livid light glimmered at times and then died out again. Infinite, as the sea around a ship becalmed in mid ocean, Mispec Moor stretched out on every side. Toward the extreme West the twin hills, called the paps of Maam, received the setting sun between their green breasts. Beyond lay Antan, the City of Twilight, where dwell gods who reign no more, but my own destination was Caer Orm, where the Druid stones rise grey and mystic.

The white road stretched out, the moon pale before me as I walked slowly lost in thought. In Mispec time or distance are not things absolute, but depend on the mood of oneself. I was half over my journey when I met *Him*. I had desired with all my heart to meet with the Other, but a pale horse slowed down to keep pace with mine, and a knight dressed in black armour, plumed and bearing an escutcheon of a vulture, his rider; spoke to me. Deep bass, his compelling voice, sonorous and kingly.

"Greeting, reverend father," the Knight said. "Your prayer to see the Merciful has been heard by Me, and I am glad that you have now that satisfaction."

"Sir," I answered, and my voice quavered and my limbs trembled, "I meant Angus the Ever Young when I prayed."

The Knight burst into peals of bleak laughter.

"You are rather conventional, a little imperceptive and not a very deep thinker, I fear, father." The Knight mocked and as I looked, rooted to the ground in terror, he lifted his visor. His face was like that of an unpitying Buddha—if you can imagine that. Calm, cold, stern, thin of lip, black of brow, livid—and for the first time I noticed the royal crown about his helmet, a rainbow of many wonderful gems in a golden circle. On it was inscribed in front in rubies, bright as burning flames—"I am Death, God of Gods, the One Reality."

"Yes, father," Balor Beman said, "I am Peace, the true never failing friend. Are your pains never so fierce? I end them. Are the years wearying? I dissolve them. Are your sins black as Hell? I give you absolution and remission of them all. I make all memories fade into dreamless sleep. Rev. father, I am the merciful. When man is at his extremity, and all the gods forsake him, then come I gliding on quiet feet. I deliver him from the greatest of evils, the fever called life. My gifts are silence and dreamless sleep,"—but he laughed a deep scornful laugh as he said this.

"Sir," I faltered, "I have heard there is light beyond your darkness, and life beyond your death."

"A lie," Balor answered, "the babble of the unbalanced." His face seemed to me to grow until it dominated the very heavens. The awful ruined face of a Buddha, who knew no pity, but had solved all the mysteries.

"Come," the deep, sonorous and commanding voice cried, "Adore Me, and renounce the phantom you call God."

I resisted in every fibre of my being that all but almighty will, and looked about me with a last despairing glance. Then I saw the Boy running to my rescue. So small he seemed, so helpless before Him who but an instant before dominated the world, yet in that moment the Knight was but a mounted Knight, crowned no doubt, but of mortal proportions. I noted he ground his teeth in chill fury.

"Hey?" he grinned, "where did you spring from? Dear Playboy? Always a Marplot! How dare you interfere between myself and this reverent priest, just when I was completing his education, too. Two is company, three is an intrusion. So get you gone to Dersam—or Antan would suit you best, it is the home of divine duds! Get going!"

The boy faced the warrior. "I am here because that priest called me. Twice; once when he came to Mispec Moor, and once when you tried to whelm his will in yours and failed. You the merciful? Destroyer who creates nothing, terror that makes all conscious life for ever tremble. Robber who steals the beauty I make. Leave my votary and go to the Never-Never-Land of cold and darkness. A day will come when Lu Lavada ("Lug Lamfada"—"Far-reaching Light, God Almighty") will bear with you no more and you, the shadow of a shade, shall fade into Antan, the City of flitting shadows."

"If a sermon was necessary, beyond doubt our mutual friend the Clergyman is ready and eager to oblige." Balor sneered; "but to hear a brat like you preaching is intolerable. Go, get out!"

The Knight levelled his spear at the boy and sticking his spurs into his horse, he

charged and I thought was about to impale Angus, but with a marvellous nimbleness Angus Oge sprang aside, the spear plunging deep into the earth. Full tilt as he had charged, Balor was unhorsed. He rose and Angus and Balor clasped in each others arms appeared to melt into a cloud of mingled light and shadow.

"See," a voice spoke to me. "A Smear. Darkness and light in a swirl. That is life."

I went back wearily into the dirty mist of the human world. I had not reached Caer Orm, of the Druid stones.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Crumlin. — The Harvest Services, held on Sunday, September 27, when the new minister, the Rev. J. Hinkins, M.A., was the preacher, were well attended, and the Church was tastefully decorated. On Friday, October 16, a Congregational Social was held, and a Social and Literary Institute initiated. —J.H.

Hollywood.—The Hollywood Branch of the Women's League held their opening meeting of the season on the 21st October, twenty-three members being present. After a business meeting, at which it was decided to take up knitting for the hospitals and the Star of Peace Crusade, tea was served. After this we had a most interesting talk by our President, Mrs. Gardiner, on her recent visit to Rhodesia. A good meeting enjoyed by all. —(Mrs.) J. M. Henderson, Hon. Sec.

Mountpottinger. — On September 30th, Rev. F. and Mrs. Munford were "At Home" to the congregation in the Schoolroom. There was a very good attendance, and a pleasant evening was spent. Harvest Services were held on Sunday, October 11th, being conducted in the morning by the Minister, and in the evening by Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A. There were good congregations at both Services, especially so in the evening. The Church was tastefully decorated for the occasion by members of the Women's League, who had the assistance of a few male helpers. To those who contributed gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables the Church Committee return grateful thanks.—E.R.J.

DEATH.

WATSON—On October 7th, 1936, at her residence, Ballywalter, Co. Down, Jane Eliza, daughter of the late Alexander Watson, Harmony Hill, Ballyboley, Greyabbey, and grand-daughter of the late Rev. John Watson, Greyabbey, aged 84 years. Interred on Friday, October 9th, in the family burring-ground, Greyabbey.

For lack of space we regret that we have been obliged to hold over several interesting and important items. — Editor.

S. & J. HEWITT

Carpenters, Builders and General House Repairers,

150 CASTLEREAGH ROAD, BELFAST.

PHONE 6706.

R. W. MOFFETT & CO.

House and Church Decorators, and General Contractors.

ESTIMATES FREE.

1, BOWNESS ST. & McCANDLESS ST., BELFAST.

— The Unitarian and —
Free Christian Laymen's League.

—:o:—

BELFAST CHAPTER

meets in the CENTRAL HALL, ROSEMARY STREET, at 8 p.m., Third Thursday of the month, October to May, inclusive.

OBJECTS (inter alia).

To encourage laymen to take a more active part in the work of the Churches.

To form a bond of union and closer co-operation between the members of the various congregations.

The Committee invite those who are not all ready members to join. The minimum subscription is 2/6, and further particulars may be obtained from—

MR. J. H. GILLILAND,
35 Rosemary St., Belfast, Hon. Sec.
MR. J. EDMONDSON, Jr., Asst. Hon, Sec.
19 Lime Street, Belfast.

CHANNING SCHOOL,

HIGHGATE, LONDON, N. 6.

PUBLIC SCHOOL for GIRLS

CHANNING SCHOOL stands on Highgate Hill, overlooking Waterlow Park, only a few minutes' walk from Parliament Fields and Kenwood. With its hockey and netball grounds, hard and grass tennis courts and beautiful gardens it enjoys not only many of the educational advantages of the Country, but also those which easy access to London alone affords.

The course of study is arranged, so that pupils may take Oxford and Cambridge Scholarship and Entrance Examinations, and the General School, Matriculation and Intermediate Examinations of the University of London. Excellent facilities are also provided for training in all branches of Domestic Science, Music and Art.

An examination for an Entrance Scholarship of the value of 30 Guineas a year is held in the School in February.

FEES, 130 GUINEAS.

For particulars and Prospectus apply to the Head Mistress.

CHURCH PRINTING.

For Church Printing of all kinds.—Church Reports, Programmes, Circulars, Cards, etc.

You should give me a trial. Work is good and charges are reasonable. : : :

EDWARD HODGETT,

REPORTER PRINTING WORKS, NEWRY.

Wires—"REPORTER, NEWRY." 'PHONE 92.

T. & J. M'ERVEL, Ltd.

Seed Merchants and Implement Agents
Feeding Stuffs. Artificial Manures.

Mowers, Reapers, Binders, Horse Rakes, Swathe Turners, Rick Lifters, Potato Diggers, Turnip Cutters, Chaff Cutters, Grinding Mills, Ploughs, Harrows, Cultivators, Horse Hoes, Threshing Sets, Churns, Boilers, Lawn Mowers, Garden Rollers, and every other requisite for the Farm.

40 VICTORIA SQUARE,

BELFAST.

Telephone 1407. Telegrams: "M'Ervel, Belfast.

CALL, WRITE, 'PHONE OR WIRE.

Printed by E. Hodgett, Margaret Street, Newry, for the "Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland." Copies may be obtained of Mr. Gilliland, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast.

LINDSEY PRESS PUBLICATIONS.

1936 ESSEX HALL LECTURE

LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY AND MODERN CRITICISM—By Principal H. McLachlan, M.A., D.D., President of the General Assembly. Price 1/- (by post 1/1).

Christian Experience—By G. Randall Jones, M.A., B.D., B.Sc. This is No 21 in the series "Religion: its Modern Needs and Problems." Send for full list of subjects and authors. Price 1/- (by post 1/1).

Hayricks and Muddy Boots—Twelve racy addresses by a farmer. By Norman D. Blake. Price 1/- (by post 1/1).

Child Nature and the Sunday School—By Bertram Lister, M.A. Author of "The King Who Was Thirsty" and other talks to girls and boys. Price 1/- (by post 1/1).

Public Worship and the Mind of To-day—Two Points of View: a Minister's and a Layman's. Henry Gow, B.A., B.D.; R. P. Jones, M.A., F.R.I.B.A. Price 3d. (by post 4d.).

A GOLDEN TREASURY OF THE BIBLE—including THE APOCRYPHA. Edited by Mortimer Rowe, B.A., assisted by Principal H. McLachlan, M.A., D.D., and Dorothy Tarrant, M.A., PH.D. 1076 Pages Crown 8vo. Consecutive Titled Readings with Introductory Notes. Price 7/6 (by Post 8/-). Leather bound, gilt edges, 10/6 (by post 11/-). Two Volume edition—Vol. 1, Old Testament and Apocrypha, 5/- (by post 5/6); Vol. 2, New Testament. 2/6 (by post 2/9). Send for Prospectus showing specimen pages.

Khasi Calls: An Illustrated Booklet—Descriptive of the Rev. Margaret Barr's work in India. By G. J. Sparham. Price 3d. (by post 3½d).

Nil Desperandum—Ten Minute Talks to Boys and Girls. Edited by Florence Railton and John Kielty. Price 1/- (by post 1/1).

Salute the House (a Parable of the Home) By A. H. Biggs, M.A., LL.M. Price 6d. (by post 7d.).

Life in Palestine When Jesus Lived—A new and revised edition with new bibliography and double-page map. By J. Estlin Carpenter, D.D. Price 2/- (by post 2/3).

SEND FOR COMPLETE CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST.

THE LINDSEY PRESS, ESSEX HALL, 5, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.

THE ULSTER UNITARIAN CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

BOOK DEPOSITORY,

35 Rosemary Street, BELFAST.

THE PUBLICATIONS ADVERTISED ABOVE ARE STOCKED.

UNITARIAN AND GENERAL LITERATURE ON SALE.
BIBLES, HYMN BOOKS, SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS,

BOOKS AND BOOKLETS SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND PRIZES.

Copies of the Life of Rev. Alex. Gordon, M.A., by Dr. M'Lachlan, may be had at list price.

Any Book not in stock procured at shortest notice. Special Terms to Ministers and Sunday School Teachers.

TRACTS EXPOSITORY OF UNITARIAN PRINCIPLES FREE.

Open 9 to 6 p.m. Saturday, 9 to 1 p.m.

Agent in Charge—Mr. J. H. Cilliland.